

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Monday Morning, April 11, 1864.

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST,
published every morning (Sundays excepted),
is the largest and most widely circulated
Journal in Her Majesty's Possessions on the
Pacific.

Resident Subscribers may have the same left at
their residence at 25 cents per week, by
furnishing their address at the Office of Pub-
lication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST;
published every Tuesday, will be mailed or let
out at 25 cents per week, payable to the
carrier.

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY will print, for
addition to their stock of new and beautiful
journals, any execute orders to any extent
with paper and type, at a slight advance
on San Francisco prices.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

The meeting on Saturday night was a fair expression of public sentiment on the question of education. We had every element in the community pretty thoroughly represented—from the clergymen to the costermonger; from the school-master to the shoemaker. There were men who dropped their classic erudition to enter more unencumbered into the arena of debate, and there were speakers who dropped their oppressive "h" to wield with greater ease the ponderous weapons of forcible facts. Much of the speaking was, as might be expected amongst so diversified an assemblage, irrelevant and even tedious, but much of it was also interesting and to the point. The principal question in the discussion resolved itself into a narrow and well defined issue—whether the Bible should be introduced into the common schools, without sectarian influences, or whether religious instruction should be entirely ignored. We cannot do otherwise than rejoice that the decision of the meeting was in accordance with the latter and more enlightened view of the question. It has been well said that whatever is made with the intention of answering two points will answer neither of them well. To combine secular with religious instruction is simply to neutralize the effects of both. It is fortunate indeed if it goes no farther than this. It is well if it does not inculcate those sectional prejudices which grow with the growth of youth, and become in mature life the fruitful source of most of those bickerings and dissensions which strike at the very root of "peace and good will to man." There can be no greater absurdity in the world than to fancy that this book, which has given to every civilized sect—from the Calvinist to the Catholic, from the Hebrew to the Episcopalian—ground-work for all their differences, can be read and taught in schools without engendering those religious animosities which have sprung up amongst the most learned and matured intellects of the ecclesiastical world. It is equally preposterous to suppose that the Bible can be taught in schools like arithmetic or mathematics. Two and two will make four to every mind—the straightest line between two points will appear the shortest line to the Jew as well as the Gentile; but where is there this definite character in the Holy Book. Are there not chapters that seem to give us as many different creeds almost as the verses which they contain? If these chapters are to be read and explained, who is the oracular sage that is to blend the different interpretations into one homogeneous whole? Or are we to have as many teachers as there are seats in the school? As we have said, the thing is simply absurd; and would ultimately, by the insertion of this end of the wedge, to produce sectarianism in its fullest extent. We are glad, therefore, that the meeting has decided against it. It will but two houses of the Legislature see that the public mind is determined on keeping religious discussions from the public seminaries, by confining religious instruction to its proper sphere—the household and the Sunday School.

Apart from this question of education the meeting on Saturday night was an indication of an awakening vitality, that argues well for our political future. It is a warning note to our Members of Legislature. It announces that henceforth a scrutinizing public eye will be upon every action. We shall see no more four-year comatoses committees. These Rip-Van-Winkles will understand that if they must have their little siesta of a few hundred days, they will be obliged to take up their couch and walk out of the Legislative hall. We have had this building too long a sleeping apartment for somnolent senators. To-night another meeting will take place, and another indignant remonstrance will be fired off at the members of Assembly. The question to which we have recently so frequently drawn attention—the hostility displayed by the majority of the House towards Governor Kennedy—will come on for discussion. The members of Assembly will doubtless attend and explain, if they can, their action on this particular subject. That they may be able to prove satisfactorily to the public that no disloyalty was intended His Excellency is our sincere hope. Governor Kennedy has thrown himself on popular support. He has told us over and over again that it is to the people of Vancouver Island he must look for that assistance, without which he cannot carry on the government of the colony. Let us show by our actions that we appreciate His Excellency's liberality, and that his confidence in the loyalty and good faith of the inhabitants has not been misplaced. There are few Governors who have met, amongst a population so unanimously enthusiastic in their favor, so dis agreeable a contumacious on the very threshold of their official duties. Let the meeting to-night show that hearty willingness to support His Excellency, which is felt by every person in the colony outside the Legislature.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Furnished Rooms.

TO RENT AT \$2.50 PER WEEK,
one room, with fireplace, dining room, Baker's, Brick Building, third door from Brown Jug, Fort street.

M. R. SMITH.

Blue Lead Silver Mining Company.

SHAREHOLDERS ARE CARNEGIE
represented by a General Meeting of the
Company, to be held at Messrs. Yerkes' office,
on Wednesday next, the 13th instant, punctually
at 2 o'clock, p.m.

LIONEL VARICAS,
Secretary pro tem.

NOTICE.

THE PARMENTER QUARTZ MINING CO.

The Parmenter Quartz Mining Co.

RECEIVED

DEFAULTING SHAREHOLDERS

and others, debtors to the above company,
are required to pay into the office of the
company or before WEDNESDAY, 13th inst.,

any demands upon the said company
will please send them on or before the same
day, after which no claims against the company
will be admitted.

D. LENEVEU, Liquidator.

Victoria, April 8th, 1864.

REQUISITION.

THOMAS HARRIS, ESQ., MAYOR OF VIC-

TORIA.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, IN HABIL-

ITY OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA,

soil its name, call a Public Meeting as early

as possible, to take into consideration the action of

the House of Assembly in not procuring a tem-

porary residence for His Excellency Governor

Kennedy, and to consider what measures as

to His Excellency our disposal of the

sentiments expressed by the majority of the

members of the House.

Yours obedient servant,

THOS. HARRIS, Mayor.

S. Nesbit

E. McMillan

D. Lindsay

N. C. Matheson

W. J. McDonald

R. Wallace

James Grahamshaw

W. M. Smyth

James Thorpe

H. N. Hicks

James Fell and others

BROAD STREET, VICTORIA,

April 8th, 1864.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your

requisite letter, and to assure you that

into consideration the action of the

House of Assembly in refusing to procure a temporary

residence for His Excellency Governor

Kennedy, and to consider what measures as

to His Excellency our disposal of the

sentiments expressed by the majority of the

members of the House.

Yours obedient servant,

GEORGE BARNETT, Secretary.

EX "HIMALAYA,"

FROM LIVERPOOL :

FLINT FOWLING GUNS—Single and Double Barrels;

FLINT BIFLIES—Do do;

FLINT HOLLOW PISTOLS;

FLINTS—for Holster Pistols and Fowling Guns;

For sale by

STEWART & CO.

Victoria, V. I., 11th April, 1864.

april

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

11

